

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 AID-20

/069 W

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P R 190615Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1920

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: RESISTANCE DAY

REF:DACCA 0216

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM SEVERAL SOURCES THAT THE JSD, AFTER SOME FTERNAL DEBATE, PLANS JANUARY 20 TO DEFY THE BAN IMPOSED ON PUBLIC MEETINGS. IF THE DEMONSTRATION TAKES PLACE AS NOW PREDICTED, IT WILL BE THE FIRST MAJOR DIRECT CHALLENGE OF THE REGIME SINCE MUJIB CAME TO POWER.

ACCORDING TO NEW DELHI BASED UPI CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH GALLOWAY, WHO INTERVIEWED RAB AND JALIL JANAURY 17, THEY SAID: "WE WILL TAKE TO THE STREETS. LET MUJIB CALL OUT HIS ARMY AND WE WILL SEE IF THEY WILL OBEY HIM." WE THINK THAT THE SECURITY FORCES WILL OBEY, AND STILL DO NOT ANTICIPATE SIGNIFICANT DISTRUBANCES.

2. JSD'S DECISION TO DEFY THE BAN MAY BE MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO SHOW THEIR CAPACITY TO MOUNT A LARGE DEMONSTRATION OF PARTY FORCES. TO SUSTAIN A LONG-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TERM CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, JSD MEEDS TO

DEMONSTRATE THIS ORGANIZING ABILITY TO THE AWAMI LEAGUE,
THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND TO THEIR OWN CADRES WHOM WE
UNDERSTAND HAVE BEEN HARASSED BY SECURITY FORCES IN THE
DISTRICTS. ACHO, BY VIOLATING SECTION 144, JSD IS
PUTTING MUJIB IN THE POSITION, FOR THE FIRST TIME, OF
HAVING TO ARREST OPPONENTS FOR OBVIOUSLY POLITICAL

ACTIVITIES. MUJIB FACES THE DILEMMA OF EITHER BACKING
DOWN OR OF BESTOWING ON THE JSD THE SINE QUA NON OF
CREDENTIAL FOR POLITICAL AGITATORS IN THE SUBCONTI-
NENT: ARREST AND DETENTION.
FULLER

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Message Attributes

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